

Lesson 3

Vocabulary Practice 1

In the third of each set of seven lessons, we'll have a lesson with no grammar at all. These will be times to rehearse what we've learned so far and to add some new vocabulary with which to play.

Vocabulary

áath	door	rana	drink; beverage
bud	clothing	shum	air
ede	grain	thal	to be good
héeya	to fear	tham	circle
hesh	grass	thili	fish
i	and	thom	pillow
ina	sleep	u	to be open
laya	to be red	ud	stone
lom	song	wíi	to be alive; to be living
muda	pig	zháadin	to menopause

Examples

Bíi áya hesh wa.
The grass is beautiful.
Bíi áya lom wa.
The song is beautiful.
Bíi áya thili wa.
The fish is beautiful.

Bíi áya wíi wa.
Being alive is beautiful.

Did you notice, in the last example, that a word that had been introduced as a verb, “wíi” (to be alive), was used as a noun, “wíi” (being alive).

English does the same thing (known grammatically as “nominalization”), forming “abandonment” from “to abandon,” “carelessness” from “to be careless,” and so on; any English verb can be used as a noun if “-ing” is added, as in “Swimming is good exercise.”

This process, which is common to all human languages, is very easy in Láadan. Simply use the verb in the noun's place in the sentence and add a case suffix to it (in this case that's the Subject Case suffix, which is a “null suffix”); this will become clear in subsequent lessons.

Bíi hal with wa.
The person works.
Bíi óoha with wa.
The person is weary.
Bíi hal i óoha with wa.
The person works and is weary.

Exercises

Translate the following into English.

1 Bí u áath wa.

E: _____

2 Bí laya bud wa.

E: _____

3 Bí ina muda wa.

E: _____

4 Bí wíi ede wa.

E: _____

5 Bí thal hesh wa.

E: _____

6 Bí laya tham wa.

E: _____

7 Bí thal ud wa.

E: _____

8 Bí zháadin muda wa.

E: _____

9 Bí wíi thili wa.

E: _____

10 Bí thal lom wa.

E: _____

Note, in #8, that “zháadin” (to menopause) is done exclusively by females. Therefore, we could be more specific and translate “muda” (pig) in this sentence as “sow.”

Translate the following into Láadan.

11 The circle is open.

L: _____

12 The pig is alive.

L: _____

13 The beverage is red.

L: _____

14 The air is good.

L: _____

15 The fish menopause.

L: _____

16 The clothing is open.

L: _____

17 The grass is alive.

L: _____

18 The pillow is red.

L: _____

19 The grain is good.

L: _____

20 The fish is afraid.

L: _____

Answers

- 1 The door is open.
- 2 The clothing is red.
- 3 The pig sleeps.
- 4 The grain is alive.
- 5 The grass is good.
- 6 The circle is red.
- 7 The stone is good.
- 8 The sow menopause.
- 9 The fish is alive.
- 10 The song is good.
- 11 Bí u tham wa.
- 12 Bí wíi muda wa.
- 13 Bí laya rana wa.
- 14 Bí thal shum wa.
- 15 Bí zháadin thili wa.
- 16 Bí u bud wa.
- 17 Bí wíi hesh wa.
- 18 Bí laya thom wa.
- 19 Bí thal ede wa.
- 20 Bí héeya thili wa.

After every few lessons, there will be a simple list, like this one, that will include all the vocabulary to which we've been introduced thus far.

áath	Door
ada	Laugh
Ána	Anna
Aranesha	Arkansas
Atheni	Anthony
áya	BeBeautiful
Bétheni	Bethany
bii	DECL
bud	Clothing
doth	Follow
ede	Grain
Elízhabeth	Elizabeth
hal	Work
Halishóni	California
héeya	BeAfraid
hena	BirthSib
Hérel	Carol
hesh	Grass
i	And
ina	Sleep
Láadan	Láadan
laya	BeRed
lom	Song
Másha	Marsha
Máthu	Matthew
Máyel	Michael
Mázhareth	Margaret
Méri	Mary
mid	Creature
muda	Pig
óoha	BeWeary
rana	Beverage
shóod	BeBusy
shum	Air
Shuzhéth	Suzette
thal	BeGood
tham	Circle
Therisha	Teresa
Thíben	Steven
thili	Fish
thom	Pillow
thul	Parent
u	BeOpen
ud	Stone
wa	MYPERC
wíi	BeAlive
Wílem	William
with	Person
zháadin	Menopause